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[SUMMARY]

SYNTHETIC FIBER

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[The author describes the classical method of producing cellulose, and its use and processing in viscose, acetate, and cuprammonium rayon. A summary of the rest of the article follows. 7

The synthetic-fiber industry in the USSR began in 1931. At present, existing plants are being renovated so that production will be greatly increased. New construction is under way, as well as planning for new plants to produce synthetic wool and rayon.

The new Five-Year Plan for creation and expansion of a national synthetic-fiber industry plans to increase the production of rayon 4.6 times and that of staple fiber 9.6 times by 1950.

Possibilities of artificial fiber are unlimited since it can be given properties which natural fiber does not possess. For example, silk has been made many times stronger than the natural product, and staple fiber has been produced with the same thermal properties as natural staple fiber.

The quantity of synthetic wool obtained from one cubic meter of wood constitutes 160-165 kilograms of fiber. This compares with the yearly yield of 30 sheep (each produces 5-7 kilograms). This is why the synthetic wool industry has increased to the rate where in 1945, 500,000 tons a year were produced.

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